

REMARKS

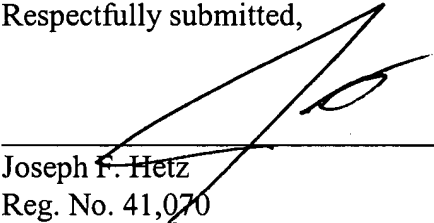
Independent Claims 1, 18, 36, and 44 and their dependent claims were rejected over U.S. Patent No. 5,831,989 to Fujisaki alone or as modified in the Office Action. Fujisaki is directed to a testing apparatus for a memory array (the “memory under test (MUT)”). For the reasons set forth in their previous responses, Applicants respectfully believe that the claims are patentable over the applied art. However, to expedite the prosecution of this application, Applicants have amended independent Claims 1, 18, and 36 to specify that the recited redundancy acts occur when field programming the memory array — not when testing the memory array. (Independent Claim 44 and its dependent claims, which relate to a method for testing a memory array, have been cancelled.) Because Fujisaki is directed to a system that performs its redundancy acts when testing the memory array — not when field programming the memory array, as recited in the amended claims, Applicants respectfully submit that Fujisaki fails to anticipate the claims and that one skilled in the art would not have been motivated to modify Fujisaki to yield the claimed invention because Fujisaki teaches away from such a modification.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration is respectfully requested. If there are any questions concerning this Amendment, the Examiner is invited to contact the

undersigned attorney at (312) 321-4719.

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Respectfully submitted,



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